

voting for the removal of President Trump, so I admired his courage. I just think he is wrong on these kind of nominees. But I just—I look at her, and I see how—what I like—one of the things I like about her is the Fed, for years, has just practiced this top-down economic policy. The people that sit on the Fed, they almost all look like me, historically.

In fact, Lisa Cook will be the first Black woman in 109 years ever to sit on the Fed, seven members of the Fed at any one time, and the terms are—usually they stay 5 to 10 years—so you can see how many people cycle in and out. But they almost all believe in this trickle-down economics that you give tax cuts to rich people and it will trickle down and the economy will be better.

Well, Lisa Cook is different. She doesn't come from the coast. She comes from what some people on the coast would call "flyover country," Michigan or Ohio. She grew up in a small town in Georgia.

She went to college at Spelman, one of the best schools in the country. She was a Marshall and a Truman Scholar in England. She got her Ph.D. at Berkeley, and now she is teaching at Michigan State. And that tells me she has a sense of this country.

And he criticized her because of her emphasis on international relations. I like it that we have somebody at the Fed that not only knows the country, knows the great industrial Midwest in Michigan or Ohio—sort of the same in some ways. I like it that she studied on the west coast. I like it that she studied abroad. I like it that she spent time overseas learning about banking in economics and other countries, instead of the cookie-cutter people we always get on the Federal Reserve. Someone very important, speaks very seriously, has a good Ivy League education, but they don't know real people. And Lisa Cook knows real people.

She has years of research and international experience with monetary policy, banking, and financial crises. She has served as an economist under administrations to both parties, and as I said, she has support from across the political spectrum. All kinds of people endorsed her. They sent more letters supporting her than any Fed nom that I remember in front of this Banking Committee, and I have been on the Banking Committee a decade and a half.

She has demonstrated her commitment to Fed independence, the importance of making decisions based on fact. She agrees with Chair Powell that the Fed's most important task right now is to tackle inflation. She believes:

A strong and resilient financial system supports American families, businesses, and our economy.

Those are her words.

Take a moment again and let me go back to why this is historical: the first Black woman in 109 years to serve in the Federal Reserve. Think about that.

Think about that: the first Black woman in 109 years. This country is 12 percent Black. We have had dozens and dozens and dozens of Fed noms, yet we are going to need—probably need the Vice President to come in here and cast the tie-breaking vote because every single Republican, everybody on this side of the aisle, sitting behind every one of these desks is voting against the first African-American woman ever on the Federal Reserve. Spelman College, Truman Scholar, Marshall Scholar, Ph.D. at Berkeley, tenure at one of America's great universities, Michigan State University—and they say she is not qualified? And Judy Shelton was? Really.

She will protect the Fed's independence. She knows that workers drive our economic growth. She, like this President, understands you focus on workers, you put workers at the center of our economy. That is the kind of Fed governor she is going to be. She understands when everyone participates in our economy, it grows faster and stronger for all Americans.

We need her on the job today. I would add the other Senator from Michigan is here who has been a strong, strong supporter of Professor Cook. I join my two colleagues from Michigan and everybody on this side of the aisle to support Lisa Cook for the Federal Reserve.

VOTE ON COOK NOMINATION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. All postcloture time has expired.

The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the Cook nomination?

Mr. BROWN. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

The result was announced—yeas 50, nays 50, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 166 Ex.]

YEAS—50

Baldwin	Hickenlooper	Reed
Bennet	Hirono	Rosen
Blumenthal	Kaine	Sanders
Booker	Kelly	Schatz
Brown	King	Schumer
Cantwell	Klobuchar	Shaheen
Cardin	Leahy	Sinema
Carper	Lujan	Smith
Casey	Manchin	Stabenow
Coons	Markey	Tester
Cortez Masto	Menendez	Van Hollen
Duckworth	Merkley	Warner
Durbin	Murphy	Warnock
Feinstein	Murray	Warren
Gillibrand	Ossoff	Whitehouse
Hassan	Padilla	Wyden
Heinrich	Peters	

NAYS—50

Barrasso	Cotton	Hawley
Blackburn	Cramer	Hoeven
Blunt	Crapo	Hyde-Smith
Boozman	Cruz	Inhofe
Braun	Daines	Johnson
Burr	Ernst	Kennedy
Capito	Fischer	Lankford
Cassidy	Graham	Lee
Collins	Grassley	Lummis
Cornyn	Hagerty	Marshall

McConnell	Rounds	Thune
Moran	Rubio	Tillis
Murkowski	Sasse	Toomey
Paul	Scott (FL)	Tuberville
Portman	Scott (SC)	Wicker
Risch	Shelby	Young
Romney	Sullivan	

(Ms. HASSAN assumed the Chair.)

The VICE PRESIDENT. On this vote, the yeas are 50, the nays are 50.

The Senate being equally divided, the Vice President votes in the affirmative, and the nomination is confirmed.

Under the previous order, the motion to reconsider is considered made and laid upon the table, and the President will be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. HASSAN). The majority whip.

MOTION TO DISCHARGE

Mr. DURBIN. Pursuant to S. Res. 27, the Judiciary Committee being tied on the question of reporting, I move to discharge the Committee on the Judiciary from further consideration of the nomination of Charlotte N. Sweeney, of Colorado, to be U.S. District Judge for the District of Colorado.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the provisions of S. Res. 27, there will now be up to 4 hours of debate on the motion, equally divided between the two leaders or their designees, with no motions, points of order, or amendments in order.

ORDER OF PROCEDURE

Mr. DURBIN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the vote on the motion to discharge the Sweeney nomination occur at 11 a.m. tomorrow, Wednesday, May 11, and that the cloture motions filed during yesterday's session of the Senate ripen following disposition of the motion to discharge; further, that if cloture is invoked on the Bedoya nomination, all postcloture time be considered expired at 2:30 p.m.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. DURBIN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to legislative session and be in a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

IRISH-AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

Mr. DURBIN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be discharged from further consideration and the Senate now proceed to S. Res. 552.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.